

O GERMAN SEMINAR

This intermediate-advanced conversation course is conducted entirely in German. Each week's topic is introduced using authentic materials from a variety of sources. Reading selections provided to the class in advance of each session are chosen to challenge participants, to keep the class up-to-date with the latest trends in the German language and cultures, and to engage the entire group in lively discussions about current events and "hot topics". Brief explanations of idiomatic expressions, specialized vocabulary, pronunciation, and grammar are incorporated into class discussions.

BROAD AREAS EXPLORED DURING THE SEMESTER INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

THE ARTS

SOCIETY AND MODERN LIFE

CURRENT AND HISTORICAL EVENTS

HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

LITERATURE

EXAMPLES OF DISCUSSION TOPICS Spring 2024

- * Loriot: the prolific German comedian, humorist, cartoonist, film director, actor and writer - a cultural icon.
- * Ötzi the ice mummy: how his discovery impacted the couple who found him, international relations, and a nearby town; what scientists have learned from ongoing studies
- * Germany pays reparations to Namibia – blood diamonds out of this African country?
- * Meat made in the lab: a way to combat global warming?
- * Our friends the animals – are they our healers as well?
- * Vivian Maier – the relatively unknown American photographer who, since her death, has become internationally famous
- * From parking garage to eco-friendly dwellings, a fresh solution to the problem of abandoned structures

